GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1557
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2009
ILLEGAL COAL MINING
Namdhari Shri Inder Singh

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal mining operations are being carried out in various coalfields in the country including Magadh and Ashoka Collieries located in Jharkhand.

(b) if, so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of such cases detected during the last three years and the current year, company-wise and colliery- wise;

(d) whether incidents of illegal coal mining take place in connivance of officials and coal mafia;

(e) if so, the details of the action taken by the Government against the culprits; and

(f) the measures taken by the Government to check illegal mining of coal?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (IC) AND MINISTER OF STATE (IC) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTION.(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (c): Illegal mining is mostly taken place in old and abandoned mines, small and isolated patches, out corp areas and areas, which are not in the leasehold areas of public sector coal companies. Due to clandestine nature of illegal mining activities, the exact quantum of coal, so mined,cannot be ascertained.

However,following the raids conducted by the security personnel of coal companies as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Government, the approximate quantity of coal recovered during the last four years is as under:

(Upto May, 2009)

Com- pany	2009-10(Prov.) No. of Case s/ Inci- dents	Qty. of coal recove red (in tonnes)	2008-2009 No. of Case s/ Inci- dents	Qty. of coal recove red (in tonnes)	2007-2008 No. of Case s/ Inci- dents	Qty. of coal recove red (in tonnes)	2006-2007 No. of Case s/ Inci- dents	Qty. of coal recove red (in tonnes)
ECL	193	1510.00	708	6529.00	262	2497.00	417	3528.00
BCCL	65	271.67	284	2050.96	61	131.00	59	63.00
CCL	19	0.00	157	93.00	508	429.90	460	404.00
NCL	0	0.00	0	00.0	0	0.00	0	0.00

WCL	0	0.00	1	11.00	3	41.0	6	38.50
SECL	0	0.00	0	00.0	1	40.0	16	541.31
MCL	0	0.00	0	00.0	0	0.00	0	0.00
NEC	4	0.00	4	00.0	5	0.00	3	0.00
Total CIL	281	1781.67	1154	8683.96	840	3138	961	4574.8

ECL= Eastern Coalfields SECL= South Eastern Limited Coalfields Limited

BCCL= Bharat Coking Coal MCL=Mahanadi Limited Coalfields Limited

CCL=Central Coalfields NEC=North-East Limited Coalfields

NCL=Northern Coalfields CIL= Coal India Limited Limited.

WCL=Western Coalfields Limited

No report of illegal mining in Ashoka and Magadh Coalfields has been received.

(d) to (f): As per information received from CIL, there is no information regarding connivance of official and coal mafia in the incident of illegal coal mining taking place.

Since law and order is a State subject, primarily it is the responsibility of State/District Administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining. However, following steps are being taken by the companies to prevent illegal mining:

a) Rat holes created by illegal mining are being dozed off and filled up with stone and debris wherever possible.

b) Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.

c) Regular raids/checks being conducted by security personnel and static security pickets including armed guards during the night hours are being deployed at pithead depots.

d). Surprise raids/checks being conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities of the concerned State Government.

e) Fencing is being constructed at the various illegal mining sites along with displaying of signboards mentioning "Dangerous and Prohibited Place".

f) Dumping of overburden is being done on the outcrop zones, which are not required to be mined.

g) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.

h) Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.

i) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup.

j) The coal companies maintain close liaison with the State Authorities.

k) Committee/task force has been constituted at different level (block level, sub-divisional level, district level, State level) at some subsidiaries of CIL to monitor different aspects of illegal mining.